$_{ m JS~44~(Rev.~06/17)}$ Case 1:18-cv-12014-JHR-JST Decument 1 Filed 07/24/18 Page 1 of 10 PageID: 1

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS						
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. Attorneys (If Known)						
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)	III. CI	FIZENSHIP OF	PRINCIPA	AL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in	One Box fo	or Plainti <u>f</u>	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)							DEF		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant			Citizer	Citizen of Another State		Incorporated and I of Business In A		□ 5	□ 5	
				n or Subject of a eign Country	3 3 3	Foreign Nation		□ 6	1 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)				Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.						
CONTRACT		RTS		RFEITURE/PENALTY		NKRUPTCY	1	STATUTE	ES	
 □ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property 	PERSONAL INJURY □ 310 Airplane □ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander □ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle □ roduct Liability □ 360 Other Personal Injury □ 362 Personal Injury ← Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS □ 440 Other Civil Rights □ 441 Voting □ 442 Employment □ 443 Housing/ Accommodations □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other □ 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability Paroduct Liability Personal Injury - Product Liability Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Othe 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	☐ 690 TY	LABOR Description of Property 21 USC 88	423 With 28 U PROPE 820 Cop 830 Pate 835 Pate 840 Trad 861 HIA 862 Blac 863 DIW 864 SSII 865 RSI FEDER 870 Taxo or E 871 IRS-26 U 861 U 871 IRS-26 U 871	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 ☐ 423 Withdrawal		□ 375 False Claims Act □ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes		
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VI. CAUSE OF ACTION		tute under which you are	re filing (D	(spec o not cite jurisdictional s				ZHOUTH		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.				DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: ▼ Yes □ No			ıt:			
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKI	ET NUMBER				
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATT	ORNEY O	F RECORD						
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY										
RECEIPT# AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUD	OGE			

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

	:	
REBECCA AVILES, individually and	:	
on behalf of those similarly	:	JURY DEMANDED
situated,	:	
833 East Schiller Street	:	
Philadelphia, PA 19134	:	Civil Action No
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
UPTOWN BAKERIES	:	
2271 High Hill Road	:	
Swedesboro, NJ 08085	:	
	:	
Defendant.	:	
	:	

INDIVIDUAL, COLLECTIVE, AND CLASS ACTION CIVIL COMPLAINT

Named Plaintiff Rebecca Aviles (hereinafter referred to as "Named Plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of all those similarly situated, by and through undersigned counsel, hereby complains as follows against Defendant Uptown Bakeries (hereinafter referred to as "Defendant").

INTRODUCTION

1. Named Plaintiff has initiated the instant action to redress Defendant's violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA") and the New Jersey Wage Payment Law (hereinafter said New Jersey laws are collectively referred to as the "New Jersey Wage Laws").

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because the claims herein arise under laws of the United States, the FLSA. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over related state law claims because they arise out of the same circumstances and are based upon a common nucleus of operative fact.
- 3. Venue is properly laid in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)(1) and (b)(2), because Defendant resides in and or conducts business in this judicial district and because a substantial part of the acts and/or omissions giving rise to the claims set forth herein occurred in this judicial district.

PARTIES

- 4. Named Plaintiff, Rebecca Aviles, is an adult individual residing at 833 East Schiller Street, Philadelphia, New Jersey.
- 5. Defendant, Uptown Bakeries, is, upon information and belief, an unincorporated association organized under the laws of New Jersey, which has a principal place of business at 2271 High Hill Road, Swedesboro, Gloucester County, New Jersey.
- 6. At all times relevant herein, Defendant acted by and through its agents, servants, and employees, each of whom acted at all time relevant herein in the course and scope of their employment with and for Defendant.

FLSA COLLECTIVE ACTION ALLEGATIONS

7. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in their entirety.

- 8. In addition to bringing this action individually, Named Plaintiff brings this action for violations of the FLSA as a collective action pursuant to Section 16(b) of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), on behalf of all employees and other similar non-exempt employees presently and formerly employed by Defendant at any point in the three years preceding the date the instant action was initiated (the members of this putative class are referred to as "Class Plaintiffs").
- 9. Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs work and/or worked for Defendant within the last three years.
- 10. Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs are similarly situated, have similar job duties, have similar pay provisions, and are all subject to Defendant's unlawful policies and practices as discussed *infra*.
- 11. There are numerous similarly situated current and former employees of Defendant who Defendant failed to pay overtime and who would benefit from the issuance of a Court Supervised Notice of the instant lawsuit and the opportunity to join the present lawsuit.
- 12. Similarly situated employees are known to Defendant, are readily identifiable by Defendant, and can be located through Defendant's records.
- 13. Therefore, Named Plaintiff should be permitted to bring this action as a collective action for and on behalf of herself and those employees similarly situated, pursuant to the "optin" provisions of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

14. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in their entirety.

- 15. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Named Plaintiff brings her claims for relief to redress Defendant's violations of the New Jersey Wages Laws on behalf of herself and those similarly situated.
- 16. Specifically, Named Plaintiff seeks to bring this action on behalf of all employees presently and formerly employed by Defendant in New Jersey subject to Defendant's unlawful pay practices and who worked for Defendant at any point the three years preceding the date the instant action was initiated (the members of this putative class are also referred to as "Class Plaintiffs").
- 17. Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs are similarly situated, have similar job duties, have similar pay provisions, and are all subject to Defendant's unlawful policies and practices as described herein.
- 18. The class is so numerous that the joinder of all class members is impracticable. Named Plaintiff does not know the exact size of the class, as such information is in the exclusive control of Defendant.
- 19. Named Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of Class Plaintiffs because Named Plaintiff, like all Class Plaintiffs, was employed by Defendant within the last three years in New Jersey whom Defendant required to work more than 40 hours per workweek and then failed to pay proper overtime wages as required by New Jersey Wage Laws.
- 20. Similarly situated employees are known to Defendant, are readily identifiable by Defendant, and can be located through Defendant's records.

21. Therefore, Named Plaintiff should be permitted to bring this action as a class action for and on behalf of herself and those employees similarly situated.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 22. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.
- 23. In order about September 2017, Defendant hired Named Plaintiff as a line worker.
- 24. Named Plaintiff earned an hourly rate of \$8.60 per hour.
- 25. Named Plaintiff regularly worked full workweeks, which consisted of forty (40) hours per week.
- 26. Named Plaintiff also worked additional hours, which resulted in her regularly working in excess of 40 hours each workweek.
 - 27. The additional hours worked by Name Plaintiff were mandated by Defendant.
- 28. However, due to Defendant's policies and practices, as detailed herein, Defendant paid Named Plaintiff \$8.60 per hour for only forty (40) hours per week, failing to pay Named Plaintiff for hours spent working in excess of forty (40) hours per week and failing to pay Named Plaintiff overtime wages for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek.
- 29. Class Plaintiffs regularly worked/work full workweeks, which consisted/consist of forty (40) hours per week.
- 30. Class Plaintiffs also worked/work additional hours in excess of forty (40) hours per week.
- 31. However, due to Defendant's policies and practices, as detailed herein, Defendant failed/fails to pay Class Plaintiffs for hours spent working in excess of forty (40) hours per week, which resulted/results in Defendant failing to pay Class Plaintiffs overtime wages for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek.

Overtime Violations (Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs v. Defendant)

- 32. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.
- 33. Named Plaintiff regularly worked at least forty (40) hours each workweek.
- 34. Defendant required Named Plaintiff to work in excess of forty (40) hours each workweek.
- 35. Defendant paid Named Plaintiff for only forty (40) hours per week regardless of the number of hours Named Plaintiff worked.
- 36. Defendant redistributes Named Plaintiff's hours to the following week in order to avoid paying Named Plaintiff overtime.
- 37. Defendant would require Named Plaintiff to clock-out but require Named Plaintiff to continue to work in order to avoid paying Named Plaintiff overtime.
- 38. As described above, Defendant evaded paying Named Plaintiff for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours per work week.
- 39. Defendant required/requires Class Plaintiffs to work in excess of forty (40) hours each workweek.
- 40. Defendant paid/pays Class Plaintiffs for only forty (40) hours per week regardless of the number of hours Named Plaintiff worked.
- 41. Defendant redistributed/redistributes Class Plaintiffs' hours to the following week in order to avoid paying Class Plaintiffs overtime.
- 42. Defendant required/requires Class Plaintiffs to clock out but required/requires Class Plaintiffs to continue to work in order to avoid paying Class Plaintiffs overtime.
- 43. As described above, Defendant evaded/evades paying Class Plaintiffs for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours per workweek.

44. The aforementioned conduct has caused damages to Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs.

COUNT I <u>Violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act</u> (Failure to Pay Overtime Compensation)

- 45. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.
- 46. At all times relevant herein, Defendant has and continues to be an employer within the meaning of the FLSA. See 29 U.S.C.A. § 203(d).
- 47. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was/is responsible for paying wages to Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs.
- 48. At all times relevant herein, Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs were/are employed with Defendant as "employees" within the meaning of the FLSA.
- 49. Under the FLSA, an employer must pay an employee at least one and a half times her base rate for each hour worked in excess of forty hours per workweek.
- 50. Defendant failed/fails to pay for hours worked by Named Plaintiffs and Class Plaintiffs in excess of 40 per workweek.
- 51. Defendant's conduct was and is willful and not based upon any reasonable interpretation of the law.
- 52. As a result of Defendant's unlawful conduct, Plaintiff have suffered damages as set forth herein.

COUNT II <u>Violation of New Jersey Wage Laws</u> (Failure to Pay Overtime Compensation)

- 53. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in full
- 54. At all times relevant herein, Defendant has and continues to be an employer within the meaning of the New Jersey Wage Laws. *See* N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a1(g).
- 55. At all times relevant herein, Defendant was/is responsible for paying wages to Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs.
- 56. At all times relevant herein, Named Plaintiffs and Class Plaintiffs were/are employed with Defendant as employees within the meaning of the New Jersey Wage Laws.
- 57. Under the New Jersey Wages Laws, an employer must pay a non-exempt employee at least one and one half times her base rate for each hour worked in excess of forty hours per workweek.
- 58. At all relevant times herein, Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs were/are not "exempt" employees for purposes of the overtime provisions of the New Jersey Wage Laws.
- 59. Defendant's violations of the New Jersey Wage Laws include failing to pay Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs for hours worked by him in excess of 40 per workweek.
- 60. Defendant's conduct in failing to pay Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs properly was and is willful and was not based upon any reasonable interpretation of the law.
- 61. As a result of Defendant's unlawful conduct, Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs have suffered damages as set forth herein.

VII. RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE, Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs demand judgment in their favor

and against Defendant and that this Court enter an Order providing that:

A. Defendant is prohibited from continuing to maintain its illegal policy, practice or

custom in violation of federal and state wage and hours laws and;

B. Defendant is to compensate, reimburse, and make Named Plaintiff and Class

Plaintiffs whole for any and all pay and benefits they would have received had it not been for

Defendants illegal actions, including but not limited to past lost earning. Named Plaintiff and

Class Plaintiffs should be accorded those benefits illegally withheld;

C. Named Plaintiffs and Class Plaintiffs are to be awarded liquidated damages as

applicable under the Fair Labor Standards Act and New Jersey Wage Laws in an amount equal to

the actual damages in this case;

D. Named Plaintiff and Class Plaintiffs are to be awarded the costs and expenses of

this action and reasonable attorneys' fees as provided by applicable federal and state law.

E. Any other further relief this Court deems just proper and equitable.

Date: July 24, 2018

LAW OFFICES OF ERIC A. SHORE, P.C.

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